

## WOMAN CRUSHED IN ELEVATOR

ABSENT-MINDEDNESS COSTS MISS FLETCHER HER LIFE.

She Starts to Get Out at Wrong Floor in Townsend Building and Her Body Is Crushed Between the Floor and the Car. Miss Fletcher Is Killed.

Miss Sara A. Fletcher, of 90 West 101st street, was instantly killed yesterday morning by being crushed by an elevator in the Townsend building, at the intersection of Broadway and Twenty-fifth street. Miss Fletcher, a small typewriting office on the tenth floor of the building.

Miss Fletcher was 55 years old. She left her home yesterday morning carrying some letters she had just received. When she entered the elevator she was reading one of them.

There were seven persons in the car when it started. After the seventh floor only Miss Fletcher and a young girl were left. The latter had been carried up at the eighth floor and got out.

Miss Fletcher, still reading her letter, started out too, thinking she was at the tenth floor.

Joseph Brown, the elevator boy, knowing where Miss Fletcher wanted to go, tried to block her exit with his left arm. He was clutching the power lever with his right hand. She bumped his arm and lost his balance. He fell to the left and the car shot up at Twenty-fifth street.

Miss Fletcher's head struck the top of the frame and she was thrown forward.

"I tried to turn off the power," said Brown, "but Miss Fletcher grabbed the auxiliary rope and I could not move the lever."

Miss Fletcher's body was crushed between the floor of the elevator and the top of the door frame. Brown lowered the car to the eighth floor and took the body out. Dr. Goehle of the New York Hospital said when he came that death had been instantaneous.

Brown was arrested and taken to the Tenderloin police station. He was arraigned before Magistrate Walsh in the Second District court on a charge of homicide. The Magistrate remanded him to Coroner Shady who, after hearing his statement and the testimony of three witnesses, released Brown in the custody of William L. de Bost of the Crutcher Company, which is in charge of the Townsend Building.

The body of Miss Fletcher was taken to the Tenderloin station, and later was removed to the Morgue.

At 8 o'clock last night a man came to the Morgue who said he was a nephew of Miss Fletcher and lived in Brooklyn. He said he wanted an undertaker to take charge of the body, but left without giving him the name or address. He said Miss Fletcher had a brother living in Rutherford, N. J.

## POLICE CHARITY THROWN AWAY.

Reserves Bought Meat for Ragged Old Man Who Had \$3.27.

A tottering old man, clothed in a red flannel undershirt, frayed trousers, and worn-out shoes, drifted into the Fifth street police station Monday night and murmured something about being hungry. His general appearance so clearly indicated starvation that Sgt. Sullivan quickly collected \$1.10 from the cops on reserve and spent the whole amount for food for the old man.

He ate it greedily and after he had cleared away the last crumb he asked the police to help him find a seventy-five cent pair of trousers that he said had been stolen from him. The sergeant only laughed, so he then said that he had a \$45 gold watch in the trousers.

He told so many rambling stories that Sgt. Sullivan decided to detain him. He gave him a name, Patrick Trainor, and told him to go to 540 West Twenty-fifth street. When he was searched \$327 in bills was found in his hip pocket of his trousers. The cops who had contributed for his lunch looked at his roll and then kicked themselves.

When Trainor was arraigned in the Yorkville court yesterday his niece, Anna Trainor, of 182 North 10th street, Brooklyn, asked Magistrate Baker to send him to the Bellevue psychopathic ward which was done. She said her uncle had property worth \$20,000.

## SHE DIDN'T CARE FOR HIM.

So His Hopes of Marrying His Landlady Are Blasted.

Policeman Newman of the Church street station arrested a man and a woman at Washington and Fulton streets Monday night. The woman was punching and slapping the man and between digs telling him what she thought of him.

"Marry me? I'll marry myself in a nice fix if I did. Take that!" she landed a side swipe over his right ear.

In the Tombs court yesterday morning she told Magistrate Breen that she was Mary Dewey, 33 years old, of 61 East 10th street, Jersey City, proprietor of a boarding house. The man gave his name as William H. Kephart, 43 years old. He is one of her boarders.

He had hoped to become the joint proprietor of the boarding house and to make his mistress Mrs. Kephart, but he guessed after what had happened he would have to call it off.

"Call it off?" cried Mrs. Dewey in court. "I guess you'd better. Marry you? Not if you were the best man in New York."

"Discharged, next case," said Magistrate Breen.

## BOYS ARMED WITH DYNAMITE.

Dime Novel Readers Say They Intended to Blow Up a Hotel.

Edward Murray, 14 years of age, of 132 Fifth avenue, and Adolph Shappe, 16 years old, of 158 West 122d street, Manhattan, were arrested by Police Sergeant O'Brien of Edgewater, N. J., yesterday as suspicious characters. When searched they were found to be in possession of a stick of dynamite, a pistol and a razor, and a assortment of dime novels. The dynamite they cheerfully confessed they had intended to use in robbing the Pleasant Valley Hotel.

## NECKWEAR WORKERS TO MOVE.

Will Take Their Plants to Brownsville to Escape Girl Strikers.

The persistence of several hundred pretty neckwear girls in keeping up a strike for union conditions and wages has led a number of East Side employers affected by the strike to resolve to move their plants to Brownsville. Special guards have already been sent there to take the places of strikers at Brownsville.

## West Hoboken Butcher Missing.

John J. Hobub, 22 years old, proprietor of a butcher's shop at 212 Summit avenue, West Hoboken, disappeared from his home five days ago and the police are making an investigation.

John J. Hobub, the fear that he had met with foul play. Hobub, who is an Austrian by birth, purchased the store only recently and seemed to be doing a good business. Last Thursday night, after putting the day's receipts in his pocket and closing up the store, he told his assistant to be on hand at 3:30 the following morning to accompany him to the market in New York. He has not been seen since.

You will scarcely believe a soda cracker can be so perfect until you taste the one perfect Soda Cracker—

## Uneda Biscuit

So deliciously baked—so tender and flaky—so wonderfully preserved by a moisture proof package. It is the only real Soda Cracker.

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## PLATINUM PRICES UP.

Jewelry Manufacturers Say That Diamond Settings Will Be More Costly.

Diamond jewelry, artificial teeth and a wide variety of articles used in the photographic, chemical and electric trades are being advanced in prices as a result of the scarcity of platinum, the cost of which has been going up rapidly, largely as a result of disturbances in Russia, from which country practically all of the supply of that metal comes.

Platinum has gone up 15 per cent since last week and is 50 per cent higher in price than it was a year ago. Bolals & Cohn, refiners at 11 Dutch street, said yesterday that the metal, which could be bought a week ago for \$24, is now \$28 an ounce. A year ago it sold for \$18 and \$18.50. The present price is three times that of fifteen years ago.

As much of the finer diamond jewelry is mounted in platinum, the manufacturers in the Maiden Lane district are watching with anxiety the upward course of the platinum market.

One of the manufacturers said yesterday that a brooch made of 14 carat gold with platinum facing which sold two months ago for \$22 now brings \$28 at wholesale.

Jewelry manufacturers say that every brooch, ring or other article made of platinum, because there is more waste in "working" it than in other metals. The outtings or scraps cannot be used again by simply fusing them. The metal melts at so high a temperature that special crucibles are required and the jewelry manufacturer is at the expense of sending the pieces back to the refiners.

Several years ago it was estimated that jewelers used nearly one-tenth of the total supplies of platinum and denials were even made. Since then the demand for the metal has increased greatly in both industries.

According to reports circulated among refiners, the Russian Minister of Commerce is now considering measures either for placing a heavy export tax on the product or for prohibiting altogether its exportation except after it has been refined in Russia.

Nearly all of the metal now exported is in the ore.

The United States imported in the fiscal year ended in June 9,200 pounds of platinum, valued by the Government at \$2,756,540. This was more than the world's annual production fifteen years ago.

## AQUEDUCT COMMISSION GOES ON.

Find a New Job Which Will Prolong Its Existence Three Years.

The Aqueduct Commission has taken another lease of life. Last year when the Croton aqueduct and the Jerome Park reservoir were finished it was thought that the work of the commission had come to an end. But the commission found that the reservoir system of the city needed a small dam at Cross River.

Now the commission, which holds some very wide powers under the act which created it, is to begin the construction of another dam at Croton Falls. The contract for the work was let yesterday to Malloy Bros. for \$3,028,815. This bid was not the lowest one sent in. Ashbel O. Vermilyea offered to do the work for \$2,817,000, but the commissioners found that he did not own a satisfactory plant.

In the Cross River dam bidding Bart Dunn put in the lowest offer, but did not get the award because he had no discovery that he had not the equipment to undertake the work.

The new Croton Falls dam will, it is estimated, impound about 100,000,000 gallons of water. The job will take thirty-two months to complete, according to the time fixed in the contract, which means that the aqueduct commission will be able to hold on for at least another three years.

## AGED WOMAN DEAD IN YARD.

Bones Broken by Fall From Room in Isabella Heimath.

Mrs. Bertha Altmuth, 76 years old, who had been an inmate in the Isabella Heimath at 190th street and Amsterdam avenue for eight years, was found dead in the yard of the institution at 5 o'clock yesterday morning by one of the watchmen. Dr. Rainey, the house physician, examined the woman's body and found that a number of bones had been broken.

The woman was in the habit of going from her room on the first floor to a window on the second floor, where she sat in a rocking chair taking the fresh air. Some of the attendants in the home said that they did not see how she could have fallen out of the window while asleep. Others say that the woman jumped out of the window while suffering from the heat. She had a sister, Mrs. Hecht, at 611 East 164th street.

## PLAYED WITH DETONATOR.

Children Injured by Explosive Which They Found in Garbage Heap.

While playing on the garbage heap at Fifteenth street and Jersey avenue, Jersey City, yesterday, children found a railroad detonator. Not knowing that it was filled with an explosive the boys and girls tossed it about in playing a game of "catch."

Suddenly the detonator exploded and three of the children were badly hurt. One, Kate Gowan, 4 years old, sisters, living at 265 Fifteenth street, were wounded about the head and shoulders. Daniel Sullivan, 12 years old, of 243 Fifteenth street, was cut on the left leg.

The wounds of the children were dressed and they were taken to the Lockwood Hospital. Railroad tracks are within a block of the scene of the explosion.

## Three Smothered to Death by Gas.

Pittsburg, Aug. 21.—Three men were smothered to death and eleven others were overcome by gas at the Eliza furnace of the Jones &amp; Laughlin Steel Company of this morning. The men were caught by an explosion which preceded a puff of gas.

The accident, one common at blast furnaces, was due to a gas leak in the furnace.

## MRS. BROWNE IN DURANCE NOW

"MATRIMONIAL SYNDICATE" WOMAN IN MURDER STREET JAIL.

Two Creditors Campaign Against Her for Debts Contracted in Seventy-third Street House—Quick Bath for Rubber-necks on Street When Arrest is Made.

There was a new turn in the affairs of the so-called matrimonial syndicate up in West Eighty-second street yesterday. Mrs. Browne, who has figured as the friend and living companion of the "young widow," Mrs. Hamilton, in the house at 523 West Eighty-second street, jumped into the centre of the stage. Browne was looked at last night in the Mercer street police station and bailed out later by Patrick J. Frawley of 285 Sixth avenue, who gave surety for \$500.

Her troubles had nothing to do directly with any matrimonial propositions. She was merely besieged by two creditors, one of whom came fortified with a warrant and detectives.

The creditors were A. Haebe of 95 Greenwich street and S. Hanna of 22 Rutgers street. Both are Syrians and deal in lace, rugs, kimono and such things. Haebe's warrant was made out against Mrs. J. Wallace Browne, formerly of 114 West Seventy-third street.

It was issued by Magistrate Simms, sitting in the West Side court, on March 21 last. Haebe said a man who gave the name of J. Wallace Browne got \$375 worth of lace, rugs and kimono from him on March 14 and had them sent to the house in West Seventy-third street for approval. When Haebe called two days later Mrs. Browne told him she hadn't made up her mind yet, but she would pay him \$75 in cash and the balance when she decided what she would keep.

The Syrian said he couldn't get either the money or the goods after that and on March 18 when he called the house was vacant. Then he had the warrant sworn out.

Hanna said he had a similar experience but was out only \$500. When the two Syrians and the detectives went to the Browne-Vernau house yesterday morning Gregory Allen, the butler, said no one was at home, but Hanna spotted Mrs. Browne at a third story window. The detectives demanded admittance. Mrs. Browne went with one of the detectives to Police Headquarters in the afternoon.

Many persons were standing in front of the house when Mrs. Browne left. A girl leaned out of one of the upper windows of the house. As the carriage started the girl disappeared a moment, then popped her head out again, emptying a paillful of water on the rubbernecks below.

## LIGHTNING CHARGED POOLS.

Horse Killed and Brooklyn Pedestrians Forced to Dance During Thunderstorm.

Little rivers of fire were running in Brooklyn yesterday at Kent avenue and South Eighth street. The same flash of lightning that caused them killed a horse driven by Michael Hoffman of 139 Twelfth street, Brooklyn, injured another horse and laid up the driver in a hospital.

Hoffman, who is employed by the Imperial Steam Laundry, was driving a team down Kent avenue when the lightning struck a telephone pole at the South Eighth street corner. The pole was split and one wire in the pool of water was passing the live wire selected the finest of Hoffman's \$500 pair of horses and wrapped itself around a neck. The horse was killed instantly and Hoffman, who was driving with him, was injured.

Hoffman tried to pull the live horse up and away, but the horse was so excited and besides passing on a fine electric shock to the driver bit his arm and kicked him. An ambulance was called from the Williamsburg hospital and Hoffman was carried off, while the horses lay in the roadway.

Meanwhile the electric wire had broken away from its first victim and buried itself in the trunk of a car passing by the heavy rain. Every pool became a charged storage battery.

Then a Franklin avenue car came by a dozen passengers got off to see what was the trouble. Joseph Lieberman of East Brooklyn gave a shout of alarm as he rushed from the street to a dry doorway. A dozen curious on-lookers were jumping in a dozen different directions as they stepped into the charged pools.

"It's a strange thing," said one of the men who had been shocked, "to be absorbing firewater through the feet."

## TROUSERS LOST ON HIGHWAY.

Found With Money Intact Neely Preserved by Steam Roller—Police Much Relieved.

SOUTH ORANGE, Aug. 21.—"I have lost my trousers with \$32 in them and I want you to find them," was the message Marshal Thomas Maguire of South Orange received over the telephone to-day at police headquarters.

"Where are you?" asked Maguire. "I'm in the village hall," came the response.

"Well, where do you think you lost your trousers and who are you?" queried the Marshal.

"I am George Keough of Buffalo, and I was running a steam roller up Spotland road. When in front of the village hall I missed my trousers. I came to a stop. Maguire detailed a man on the case and in a while the trousers were found in a wagon which was being driven along Spotland road. The driver said he had found the trousers on the street and had taken possession of the money which was in the pocket."

At the point on which the police were baffled was how on earth Keough lost his trousers on the public highway. It then developed to their relief that Keough was a drunken man and that he had been having forced him to remove his trousers. He had dropped out of the steam roller, which had run over them and nicely pressed them.

## REMEMBERS HE WAS THERE.

Man Accused of Robbery Forgot at First He Was on the Scene.

Antonio Lupo, captain of a scow moored at the foot of East 81st street, accused a man of the robbery of a jewelry store yesterday. Bernard Page, a truck driver of 1000 First avenue, who Lupo said, was one of three men who came aboard the scow last Saturday night when he was there alone, and after punching him took a gold watch, \$8 in money, and some clothing. The whole loss amounting to \$45.

Page denied knowing anything about it at first. Later when Magistrate Baker asked him if he remembered the robbery, he said, "Judge, I'd rather wait until they get them other two fellows that was with me."

## RAID DANNY THE DUDE.

Tenderloin Police Go in on Information From Southerner.

The Waldorf-Astoria Social Club at 32 West Twenty-eighth street, sometime known as "Danny the Dude's Place," was raided yesterday afternoon by the police of the Tenderloin station. For man who said that he was Danny C. Bagan of Louisville, Ky., told the police that he had lost \$50 in the place playing roulette and \$20 more on horse races.

Detectives Dunoon and O'Neill didn't have any trouble in getting into the place. They found fifty men in there and arrested three, John Saunders of 304 West Twenty-eighth street, whom they charged with running the place, and two others as his assistants.

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Mr. Charles L. Hughes, who became famous by conducting the investigation of the Legislative Committee, and who speaks with authority, has recently said: "We have had great companies exposed to close and unparrying analysis, only to find that their solidity was as the rock of Gibraltar. I would rather take insurance in a New York company compelled to transact business under these restrictions, than in any company not so restricted, and I believe that will be the sentiment of the people of these United States."

If you would like to know for yourself the latest phases of Life Insurance, or wish information concerning any form of policy, consult our nearest agent or write direct to The Mutual Life Insurance Company, New York.

## TANGLED TARS OF CANAL STREET.

Sailor Lads Couldn't Tell a Horse Car From a Ship.

Able Seamen John Reilly and James Kelley of the U. S. S. Mayflower, now off the Brooklyn navy yard, with everything the shipshape, set out on a Monday night in a spanking breeze for a cruise along the Bowery.

"Pipe all hands for'ard," ordered Kelley, acting as boat's mate. "Ain't these elegant waters? It's me that'd be wishin' Davy Jones's locker was here."

Schooners galore were passed, many of which the man-of-war's men scuttled. Hailing signals were exchanged with various merchantmen and before the two had gone many knots Reilly had taken aboard a new chronometer and some excellent appearing binoculars, which afterward were discovered to be without lenses.

"God we're off Hongkong already," sang out Reilly, as he spied a swarm of ohunks and the Asiatic pinnacles of Chinatown.

"Hard aport, quartermaster—put out for the Bowery again."

The steering machinery did not respond in the rough sea that was now running, and soon the two whirled into Canal street, and soon the two whirled into Canal street.

A haze had settled and the pair were barely able to make out the red and green lights of a stranded horse car which had run off the track.

"Strike me pink—if it ain't the Maryland—an' she's in distress," cried Kelley excitedly. "Cast off the cutters and give 'em a line."

"Maryland me foot," said the other, grabbing the binoculars and studying the white intensity. "It's an old junk and she's all snug."

This started an argument between the two which ended in blows and the next thing the large remembrance was passing the green channel lights marking the Eldridge street station house. They were in tow with the good ship Policeman John Daily.

"Strange the watch didn't report our colliding with this craft," Kelley remarked as he and Reilly submitted to a dressing of their battered heads by a Gouverneur Hospital ambulance on duty.

"Mayflowers in August," said Magistrate Wable in the Essex Market police court to the prisoners yesterday morning. "I'll let you fellows go so that you can be put in the dry dock in time to be put in shape for the review."

"It's the brig we'll see instead of Teddy," put in Reilly mournfully, as they made for the navy yard.

## GIMBERNAT HELD FOR TRIAL.

Lost Ring He Got on Memorandum From Folkhart, He Says.

James R. Gimbernat of 17 East Twenty-seventh street was held for trial in General Sessions on a charge of grand larceny by Magistrate Breen in the Tombs court yesterday. He was charged with stealing a diamond ring valued at \$100 by Louis D. Folkhart, a diamond merchant at 14 John street. Gimbernat was arrested two weeks ago.

Gimbernat was introduced in 1905 to Folkhart, who gave the young man several pieces of jewelry on memorandum.

In January 19 of this year he got a ring worth \$100, with the understanding that it should either be sold or returned to him. Folkhart said that the next time he heard from Gimbernat was by letter two weeks later, when the young man wrote that he had lost the ring.

Re said he had been at dinner on the night of January 19 in the Hotel Savoy with his mother and had been in the public wash room to get a change of clothes. He said he was sitting on a shelf in the wash room when he and the porter in charge of the wash room looked for it, as did the clerk, it could not be found.

Gimbernat said that he had subsequently been entrusted with jewelry by Folkhart, which the latter denied. Mrs. Gimbernat testified in her own behalf and corroborated his story of the dinner and losing the ring. Magistrate Breen said that the conflict on the point of subsequent memoranda of jewelry warranted his holding Gimbernat. Lawyer Carpenter for the defense said that his client intends to pay for the ring, but up to yesterday had been unable to raise the money. Gimbernat got \$500 bail to appear in the higher court.

## WOMAN WRECKS BEAUTY PARLOR.

Says Operation Spoiled Her Complexion and Didn't Help Her Nose.

BOSTON, Aug. 21.—"Send an officer down here quick or our place will be a wreck."

\$33.00  
PACIFIC COAST

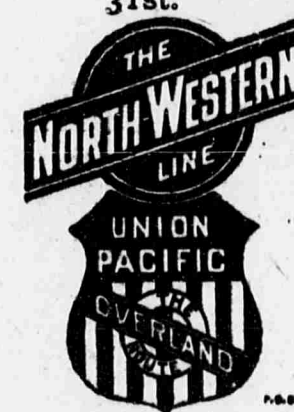
Second class one way tickets at this very attractive rate will be sold daily via the Chicago, Union Pacific & North-Western Line from September 15th to October 31st inclusive, to San Francisco, Los Angeles, Portland, Tacoma, Seattle, Victoria and Vancouver.

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## DIED BEFORE OPERATION.

Man With Broken Neck Was on the Way to the Table.

Albert Toff, 48 years old, of 447 West Twenty-seventh street, was brought to Bellevue Hospital on Saturday last in a Roosevelt Hospital ambulance, suffering, according to the surgeons who brought him, from a fracture of the skull.

Mrs. Lindsay and Phillips examined the man and found that his neck was broken. They immediately began at light to save his life. The operation upon which depended the outcome of the case had to be postponed because the patient had edema of the lungs, which made it unwise to administer an anesthetic.

It was decided yesterday that the operation could not be longer delayed. All the doctors of the first medical division were assembled in the amphitheatre at the hospital for the operation, but at the hour set Dr. Phillips announced that the patient had died while being brought to the operating room.

To fall from the roof of his house on Friday night while sleeping there. He struck the stone flagging below.

## STOLE FROM AN AMBULANCE.

Thief Almost Got Away With Two Blankets, but Was Caught.

John F. Cannon, 54 years old, of 17 Spring street, was a prisoner in the Essex Market police court yesterday on the complaint of Dr. Mason of Gouverneur Hospital.

On a hurry call to 91 Second avenue early in the morning Dr. Mason and Billy Fields, the driver, were engaged in attending to the patient when they saw a man walking away with a pair of blankets from the stretcher. Fields gave chase and the fellow in trying to get away from him ran plumb into Policeman Borum coming around a corner. He was arrested after a hard fight. Magistrate Wable held the prisoner in \$500 bail for trial.

## KELLOCK HELD FOR MURDER.

Coroner's Jury Decides That He Shot James Murtha.

A Coroner's jury, with Coroner Harburger presiding, yesterday decided that James Murtha, who was fatally shot in Hugh Quigley's Old Homestead saloon at Eighth street and Broadway, was killed by James Kellock before the night of the shooting. A bullet fired out of a revolver in the hands of William Kellock, who was arrested in the place after the shooting.

Coroner Harburger held Kellock for the Grand Jury without bail.

In the hope that he would get a motive for the killing, the jury heard the story of the killing and that Kellock had tried to get her away from Murtha. One story had it that Murtha threw Kellock down stairs one night when he called and that the latter swore he would get even.

Mary Welker swore that she had seen Kellock before the night of the shooting. She said he had never tried to win her and added, "Anyhow he never could 'a' got me from Jimmy."

One of the policemen said he had asked Murtha as he lay on the sidewalk if Kellock had fired the shots, and that the jury had had no answer. Murtha said he did not know if Kellock was the man. The police declare that Kellock was out looking for Murtha, but they say they have not discovered any motive.

## Fraud Voters Pardoned.

ALBANY, Aug. 21.—At the request of Justice Davy and Attorney-General Barker, who took part in their trials, Gov. Hughes has pardoned Thomas McCabe and Barholomew